

CELTIC COLLEGE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS
2019

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FIDDLE

1001: Intermediate/Advanced Irish Fiddle (Liz Carroll)

Learn some of the tunes and techniques that give Irish music its characteristic lilt! Together, you will learn at least one tune a day, and will take time to work out bowing and ornamentation. For both intermediate and advanced fiddle students.

1002: Beginner Irish Fiddle (Jake James)

In this class, there will be in-depth explanations of the different techniques necessary for those who are relatively new to the fiddle. Students will be introduced to different tune-types and start playing some basic tunes; exposure to the playing of some of the great Irish fiddlers will also be a component. The goals of the class are open to modification based on student interests or questions.

1003: Jazz Influenced Fiddle (Elise Boeur)

For intermediate and advanced students. Learn about syncopation/rhythmic variations and technical tricks to swing trad tunes in new and interesting ways without losing sight of their original phrasing.

2001: Advanced Irish Fiddle (Liz Carroll)

Learn a couple of tunes a day, and concentrate on the use of variations and bowing to make a tune one's own. For experienced fiddle students who are very comfortable with their instrument, able to play at full speed and learn quickly by ear.

2002: Intermediate Ontario Fiddle (Shane Cook)

Expand your repertoire by learning several new Ontario-style (Ottawa Valley) tunes! The class will be taught by ear, but sheet music will be provided by the end of the week. As an intermediate class, this course is intended for students who are reasonably comfortable with their instrument, and can play at a moderate speed.

2003: Beginner Technique for Novices (Elise Boeur)

This class will focus on the mechanics of fiddle for those who have only just picked up the instrument. You'll go over fingering and bowing, and learn some simple tunes to put your skills into practice.

2004: Intermediate Fiddle Technique (Nicole Lefaive)

In this class, students will learn about a variety of styles, such as Old Time, Scottish, Irish, Metis, Ragtime and Bluegrass. There will be focus on bowing patterns, embellishments and double stops. A variety of intermediate level tunes will be taught and worked on. Students will add character to these tunes by adding variations in different sections, and the class will also work on adding harmony to one of the tunes. Sheet music will be provided.

3001: "Fair Ple" -- Liz Carroll Tunes (Liz Carroll)

Learn some of Liz Carroll's characteristic fiddle tunes from the musical master herself, and learn how she goes about writing them. As a class, break down what you like in your favourite tunes, and share how to compose new tunes and add variations to your favourites. For intermediate and advanced fiddlers who are reasonably comfortable with their instrument, and can play at a moderate speed.

3002: Intermediate/Advanced Scottish Fiddle (Brian McNeill)

This class will deal with bowing, phrasing, and ornamentation across the most mature of Scottish music as well as standards of the Scottish repertoire. The goal is to produce at least one set of performable tunes by the week's end. Modern use of the fiddle as a backing instrument and playing with other instruments - particularly bagpipes and accordion - will be covered, along with the history of Scottish music and its context in Scottish social history. Composition by students during the week will be encouraged. Tunes will be learned orally on a master/apprentice basis and printed versions will be available at the end. Students should bring a small audio (not video) recorder and a big heart.

3003: Intermediate Irish Fiddle (Jake James)

In this class, students will learn new tunes, techniques with a focus on the bow, uses of ornamentation, and a splash into some of the stylistic differences in Irish traditional fiddle styles. The goals of the class are open to modification based on student interests or questions.

3004: Beginner Cape Breton Fiddle (Dan MacDonald)

This course introduces you to Cape Breton fiddle music, with an emphasis on learning tunes. You will also learn the basics of Cape Breton-style bowing, rhythm, and intonation so that you can add some Maritime flair to both the tunes you learn in class and the ones you already know!

3005: Beginner Fiddle Tunes (Jill Lefaive)

Bring your own fiddle and learn some traditional tunes! In this class students will be taught the basics of fiddle music and technique. You will learn how to hold the instrument, learn basic bow strokes and fingerings, and will play beginner fiddle tunes by ear and with musical notation. Students will take away a repertoire of simple Irish, Scottish and Canadian tunes.

4001: Advanced Scottish Fiddle (Brian McNeill)

This class will deal with bowing, phrasing, and ornamentation of the most complex of Scottish tunes and cover both traditional and Brian's own compositions. Students will be encouraged to both compose tunes and give input on arrangement, with the goal of producing at least one complex and varied set of performable tunes by the week's end. Regional variations in style, use of harmonies and chords, modern use of the fiddle as a backing instrument and playing with others, particularly bagpipes and accordion, will be covered. The history of Scottish music and its context in Scottish social history will be discussed. The class will be taught orally on a master/apprentice basis and printed versions will be available at the end. Students should bring a small audio (not video) recorder and a big heart.

4002: Advanced Ontario Fiddle (Shane Cook)

Expand your repertoire with several new Ontario-style (Ottawa Valley) tunes! This class will be taught by ear, but sheet music to be provided by the end of the week. This class is intended for students who are very comfortable with their instrument and are able to play at a reasonably quick speed as the class progresses.

4003: Intermediate Cape Breton Fiddle (Dan MacDonald)

A little faster-paced than the Beginner Cape Breton Fiddle class, this course will teach Cape Breton tunes and techniques. You will delve into Cape Breton-style bowing, rhythm, and intonation and learn how to apply those technical elements to strengthen both the tunes that you learn in class and ones that you already know.

ENSEMBLE

Note: These classes are open to all instruments unless otherwise noted. Intermediate level and above. Please note that instrument reservations are not available for ensemble classes.

1004: Franco-Ontarian Style (Ariko)

Join Franco-Ontarian sisters Nicole, Jill, and Kelly of the family band Ariko in an exploration of Ontario's rich francophone musical tradition. The class will focus on learning traditional French-Canadian call and response repertoire as well as Ontario style fiddle tunes and accompaniment. Sheet music will be provided!

1005: Playing for a Ceili (Michael Rooney & June McCormack)

Michael & June have been members of the award winning Dartry Ceili Band in Sligo for the past 12 years. They will bring their experience as band members to the ceili band class. The focus will be on good tune choice, how to maximise authentic ceili band rhythm and appropriate use of variations in the band. In addition to this, some time will be spent on appropriate key changes, modulations and developing understanding of effective ceili band performing.

2005: Calling all RUNA'tics (RUNA)

Join RUNA to learn a few tunes and RUNA-fy it up! With the help of Fionan de Barra, Caleb Edwards, Jake James, Cheryl Prashker, and Shannon Lambert-Ryan, learn how to contemporize trad songs and tunes using innovative rhythms and world-music influences that add a new layer of vivacity to the timeless Celtic tunes. All instruments (including voice!) and skill levels are welcome!

2006: Cape Breton to Ireland (Dan MacDonald and Brian Taheny)

Discover the differences and similarities between these rich musical traditions by feeling them in your fingers! Learn some tunes from both traditions and stretch across the Atlantic to put them together in a set, then explore possible arrangements and combinations. Open to all instruments and skill levels.

3006: Québec Style (Bourque Emissaires)

Reels, jigs, waltzes, and galopes! You will learn tunes -- some crooked, some not -- from different styles and regions of Québec. Many tunes are related to different styles of dance. Repertoire is geared towards fiddle and accordion, but all instruments are welcome! Some sheet music will be provided.

3007: Ontario Style (Shane Cook, Emily Flack, Kyle Waymouth)

Join Shane Cook, Emily Flack, and Kyle Waymouth to learn several Ontario-style tunes and songs. You will also explore ways to arrange the tunes and songs that you learn, with the goal of producing a set or two. The class will be taught by ear, and is open to all instruments.

4004: Jazzing up Celtic (Aerialists)

Learn about the paradoxical and fascinating world of "progressive traditional" music from three of the genre's best! Learn several tunes and then look into ways that multiple players can work together to create a varied musical soundscape – specific techniques taught will be dependent on what sort of instruments are brought into the mix.

4005: Irish Ensemble (Caroline Keane & Tom Delany, Alan Murray, and Matt & Shannon Heaton)

In this class, learn to arrange the energetic and tightly coordinated tune sets that are integral to Irish music. With experts Caroline Keane & Tom Delany, Alan Murray, and Matt & Shannon Heaton, discover how to link tunes together; how to come up with intros, bridges, harmonies, and chord progressions; and how to navigate the tricky change of time signatures that can add such energy to a set of tunes. You will

also learn some new tunes! Some experience in playing Irish music and comfort with learning by ear is necessary.

VOCAL HARMONY

2007: Vocal Harmony 1 (Arrowsmith: Robb Trio)

Vocal Harmony 1, 2 & 3 will be an opportunity to do two things -- learn some songs in parts, and explore different options for coming up with your own harmony parts when you want to sing something that isn't the tune. The three classes will each cover different songs so that students can sign up for more than one of the classes (or all three if they wish!) without repeating material.

3008: Vocal Harmony 2 (Arrowsmith: Robb Trio)

See Vocal Harmony 1.

4006: Vocal Harmony 3 Arrowsmith: Robb Trio)

See Vocal Harmony 1.

4007: Quebec Call & Response (Ariko)

Warm up your vocal cords and brush up your French skills! You'll be working on learning traditional call and response (chansons à répondre) repertoire in French. The beauty of this style is that it uses so much repetition, which makes for an accessible and fun way for non-francophones to learn how to sing in French, although sheet music will also be provided. Daily, you will work on ear training exercises to improve your ability to harmonise. Nicole, Jill, and Kelly will share techniques they use to develop their two and three part harmony lines. Venez chanter avec nous!

ACCORDION

1006: All Things Accordion (Antoine Pigeon-Bourque)

Just like the title suggests! With Antoine Pigeon-Bourque, who is both classically trained and well-versed in the folk traditions of Quebec, learn about a range of techniques, and get tips on rhythmic variation, ornamentation, and other ways to make your accordion playing interesting and fun.

2008: Intermediate Concertina (Caroline Keane)

For concertina players who are fairly comfortable with their instrument and learning by ear. Learn some new tunes to add to your repertoire, then get tips on technique and general guidance on playing Irish traditional music in a variety of contexts. Material will be tailored to students' ability and interests.

3009: Intermediate/Advanced Concertina (Caroline Keane)

Pump up the energy! For both intermediate and advanced students, comfortable with learning by ear and picking up the speed. Learn some new tunes and then get technique and general guidance, tailored to students' ability and interests, to take your playing to the next level.

4025: Diatonic Accordion (Benoit Bourque)

This workshop is geared towards diatonic accordions, but you can come with any other instrument if you would like to learn tunes! For accordion players, in addition to learning tunes, Benoit will also teach you how to hold the accordion and position your hands properly, and give tips for wind/button control and ornamentation. Sheet music will be provided.

FLUTE & WHISTLE

1007: Beginner Flute (Shannon Heaton)

For newer flute players, this class will focus on tone production, posture, and steady rhythmic pulse. For players intimidated by aural learning, the course will also address simple, no-nonsense strategies for picking up tunes.

1008: Intermediate Whistle (Tom Delany)

Start looking at some of the techniques used in Irish music on the whistle and get a broader understanding of the music itself. Student should have a small repertoire of 10 tunes minimum already. Bring your own tin whistle in the key of D, and a recording device (a phone is fine).

2009: Intermediate/Advanced Flute (June McCormack)

This class is for flute players who have intermediate to advanced skills and play tunes in a variety of rhythms (jigs, reels, etc.), with good technique and at a reasonable tempo. This course will expand on the skills and topics introduced in the fundamentals class, with more attention given to ornamentation, breathing, tone, style and essential flute repertoire, while continuing to emphasize rhythm and phrasing in the music. Tunes will be taught using a D flute. June will focus on the repertoire of the Sligo/ Leitrim area where she lives and is culturally synonymous with fiddle and flute playing.

2010: Beginner Whistle (Tom Delany)

Learn your first tunes on the Irish whistle! No musical experience is necessary -- this course is open to students with anywhere between 0 and 2 years of experience. Please bring a tin whistle in the key of D and a recording device (a phone is fine).

3010: Intermediate Whistle (Shannon Heaton)

For players with a little bit of experience. This class will focus on rhythmic feel and ornamentation, and will discuss different ways to build repertoire and ensemble skills. Please bring one jig and one reel you feel comfortable playing.

HARP

Note: A limited number of harps can be reserved for students in 3012: Harp for Absolute Beginners ONLY. Harps must be reserved at the time of registration; if no harp is reserved, students are required to provide their own.

2011: Intermediate Irish Harp Style (Michael Rooney)

In this class, you will learn a variety of Irish dance tunes on harp, including some of Michael's own recent compositions for harp. The course will also include learning different ways of approaching both ornamentation and accompaniment for the music covered. The music will be taught by ear, and you may use an audio recording device.

2012: Jazz Influenced Harp (Màiri Chaimbeul)

For intermediate and advanced students. This class will consider rhythmic variation in melodies, syncopated accompaniment patterning, and variations in chording as ways to add some jazz-y elements to tunes without losing touch with their roots in trad music.

3011: Intermediate Harp (Màiri Chaimbeul)

Brush up on your technique and get some tips on arranging tunes so that you don't have to rely on songbooks! Learn a few new tunes and then examine ways of varying both accompaniment and melody to create engaging and polished-sounding pieces.

3012: Harp for Absolute Beginners (Sharon Johnston)

For those with absolutely no experience with the harp. Learn basic hand position and simple technique to create beautiful music immediately. Music will be taught by ear, with scores given at the end of class. You will learn several tunes, and some basic accompaniment.

NOTE: A limited number of harps are available for student use, but MUST be booked in advance.

4008: Intermediate/Advanced Harp Tunes (Michael Rooney)

In this class, learn a variety of tunes types, and focus in particular on developing harp technique and left hand accompaniment. You will also learn about chord choice, syncopation and how to accompany all Irish tune types successfully in an Irish session on harp..

BODHRAN

Note: A limited number of bodhrans are available to students. Bodhrans must be reserved at the time of registration; if no bodhran is reserved, students are required to provide their own.

2013: Intermediate Bodhran (Les Starkey)

There are two sides to the bodhran. The front side is the stick side and provides the rhythm. The back is the hand side and provides the music. In this course, students will learn how to use both sides of the drum and expand their ability to accompany the melody.

4009: Beginner Bodhran (Les Starkey)

The bodhran is a drum of ancient origin that is the heartbeat of Celtic music, adding a dimension that completes and rounds out the beautiful music being played by melody instruments. This course will cover the history of the bodhran, bodhran etiquette, and basic techniques. By the end of the course, students will be able to play the bodhran to a reel and jig!

PIANO

Note: A limited number of pianos are available to students. Pianos must be reserved at the time of registration; if no piano is reserved, students are required to provide their own. Please note that the pianos are not available for ensemble classes.

1009: Beginner Piano Accompaniment (Emily Flack)

For all those tired of playing solo! Focus on the principles of chording and rhythmic variation so that you can confidently collaborate with instruments and singers in a variety of styles.

2014: Intermediate/Advanced Cape Breton (Emily Flack)

For those familiar with piano chording but looking to learn a new accompaniment style. Explore the dynamic and rhythmic style of Cape Breton traditional music with accomplished accompanist Emily Flack.

GUITAR**1010: Guitar Tunings (Fionàn de Barra)**

In "Guitar Tunings," you'll explore several different methods of tuning the guitar for solo performance and for accompaniment. You'll look at the more "mainstream" tunings, as well as diving into custom tunings to accomplish unique tones and sounds. The course is aimed at more experienced guitar players who want to expand their existing knowledge, but all levels are welcome who have a basic guitar understanding.

1011: Intermediate Irish Rhythm Guitar (Matt Heaton)

This class will orient players to different tune types and rhythmic feels in Irish (and other Celtic) music. You'll learn how to choose chords for a tune and how to be a welcome addition to any session.

2015: Intermediate Fingerstyle (Tony McManus)

TBA

2016: Advanced Irish Rhythm Guitar (Matt Heaton)

This class will cover backing traditional Irish tunes. You'll explore different tuning options, chord choices, and counter-melodies/ bass lines for accompanying Irish (and other Celtic) music.

2017: Chords for Trad (Adam Iredale-Gray)

In this class, you will learn a few tunes and then work on finding a good harmonic path through them. Learn about choosing basic chords that complement the melody, then delve into basic reharms (chord substitutions), talk about groove and harmonic rhythm, and look at how all that affects chord choices. You will also look at upper structures vs. bass motions, and at more subtle 8th note feel variations.

3013: Intermediate/Advanced Fingerstyle (Tony McManus)

TBA

3014: Guitar Accompaniment (Brian Taheny)

Explore the possibilities available to modern guitarists, with a focus on providing innovation that supports rather than distorts the tradition. You will also delve into poly-rhythms and alternate guitar accompaniment and melody playing.

3015: Music Theory 101 (Adam Iredale-Gray)

In this class, you will go over basic theory through the lens of its use in Celtic music. Learn about basic scale and chord theory, the circle of fifths, diatonic chords, and modal theory. You will go over how all this theory is related to Celtic music, and look at how it can help your improvisation and variations on tunes. Depending on student interest, you may also look into using modes as part of composing your own tune!

4011: Rhythm Guitar (Fionàn de Barra)

In "Rhythm Guitar" you'll explore how to bring life to guitar accompaniment using various techniques borrowing from other music genres to create unique sounds for traditional and Celtic music. For both instrumental and song accompaniment, you'll look at ways of incorporating these techniques to bring fresh sounds and tones to Celtic guitar. The course will be best suited to guitar players who are familiar with basic guitar chords and strumming.

4012: Not Really Celtic Fingerstyle (Tony McManus)

In this course we will look at some material beyond the Celtic world and apply some techniques to these tunes. Some accessible classical music, some jazz and maybe even a Beatles song. Some in standard tuning, some in altered tunings but all fun and playable by an intermediate guitarist

FRETTED STRINGS**1013: Twin Mandolins (Caleb Edwards and Emory Lester)**

A variety of techniques and approaches for two or more mandolins will be studied in this class. Musicianship, presentation, creativity, and choices when playing with others will be discussed and displayed, with class participation and experimentation, which will make for a very fun and informative mandolin class!

1014: Intermediate Banjo (Shane Mulchrone)

TBA

1015: Intermediate Bouzouki (Alan Murray)

In this course, you'll take a step-by-step approach to backing tunes in GDAD tuning, using both chords and counter-melody with emphasis on rhythm, picking and strumming patterns, and right hand techniques to improve each day. Please bring a tuner and capo, as well as an audio/video recorder if you like.

2018: Absolute Beginner Mandolin (Kelly Lefaive)

Love the mandolin but never tried it before? Learn the basics here! This course will cover how to hold the instrument and how to tune it, strumming patterns, easy chords, and simple melodies. Sheet music will be provided.

2019: Bouzouki -- Behind the Scenes (Alan Murray)

This class will explore the use of the bouzouki in song accompaniment within the Irish and Celtic traditions, with references to classic styles and recordings that brought the instrument into the forefront of the tradition. You'll sing a bit together as well! Please bring a tuner and capo, as well as an audio/video recorder if you like.

2027: All Things Bass (Joseph Phillips)

Open to both bass guitars and stand up bass, this course teaches you how to write a complimentary bass line, ways of feeling "groove," how to play melodies on the bass, and how to create some special effects and colours. The course will include some basic or more advanced technique, depending on your level. If you are on bass guitar, heads up that you will get a chance to try a stand-up bass!

3016: Intermediate Mandolin (Emory Lester)

This class will be a complete study of mandolin playing in a wide range of categories, from proper and effective technique, to fretboard mapping and knowledge, and using the 'Tools of Creativity' to expand on approach, through process and ability. Celtic melody presentation and execution, as well as touching on some other genres, will be studied during the week's classes.

3017: Intro to Bluegrass (Caleb Edwards)

An in depth look at the musical gears that make a bluegrass band what it is, and how it borrows from Celtic music and blues, all from the perspective of a mandolin. It's not completely necessary to have a mandolin, but an interest in bluegrass, dynamics, and banjo jokes are a must!

3018: Advanced Banjo (Shane Mulchrone)

TBA

4013: Advanced Mandolin (Emory Lester)

A complete study of mandolin playing in a wide range of categories: advanced technique, double stops and multiple string melodies, and specialized subjects such as the 'art of lyrical mandolin', the 'art of syncopation', and the 'art of improvisation' will all be covered during the week's classes.

4015: Tune Repertoire for Banjo (Brian Taheny)

Precisely that! Learn, play, and discuss Irish traditional tunes and their adaptation to tenor banjo techniques and ornamentation. You will also explore tune sets and how to approach arrangements.

SONG

1016: Scottish Song (Brian McNeill)

This class will deal with Scots language song of all types, including ballads, love songs, political songs, work songs and songs of the Scottish music hall era. Scottish song's relation to other traditions, modern interpretations of traditional songs, harmony, regional variations, and relation to instrumental traditions will be covered, as will pronunciation. Historical context, myth and story, and the influence of important traditional singers and songwriters will be discussed. The aim is to learn at least four songs and produce two as singable group entities by the week's end. The class will be taught orally on a master/apprentice basis, but printed versions of words will be available. Students should bring a small audio (not video) recorder and a big heart.

4016: Songs in Gaelic (Shannon Lambert-Ryan)

Challenge yourself and learn how to sing in Gaelic! Learn how to pronounce and break down the phonetics of an ancient language, explore the poetry of the Celtic Isles, and discover the art of arranging music and performing in a foreign language! Previous experience singing in Gaelic is most welcome, but certainly not necessary. All ages and levels of ability are encouraged!

PERCUSSION

1017: Bones and Foot Percussion (Benoit Bourque)

Pairs of both wooden and real bones will be provided for this fun and high-energy class, but you are also welcome to bring your own. You will learn the technique to hold and move bones with one or two hands, and will cover jigs, reels, and waltzes. Despite the emphasis on bones... we promise it won't be painful!

DANCE

1019: Intermediate Ottawa Valley Step (Kyle Waymouth)

For students who have a bit of a background in the world of step dancing. In this class, you will be introduced to a variety of difference dances, including clog, jig, and reel steps. Prepare for "next steps" in your dancing by discussing requirements in step dance contests, and get inside tips on what judges may look for.

2020: Québec Dance (Benoit Bourque)

Québec culture has been formed by many influences: French, English, Irish, Scottish, and Indigenous. In this class, you will learn a variety of dances that reflect those influences, including contredanses, sets carrés, quadrilles, cotillons, and rondes chantées.

2021: Irish Social Dance (Maureen Mulvey)

With experienced dancer and caller Maureen Mulvey, learn some of the dances common in Irish culture. Depending on numbers and class interest, these may include intricate 8-person set dances, sociable and pattern-driven ceili dances, or smooth, partner-based waltzes and Gay Gordons. No experience or partner required, but please wear comfortable non-marking shoes.

3019: Irish Social Dance (Maureen Mulvey)

See 2021: Irish Social Dance.

4017: Group Dance (Kyle Waymouth)

This class will introduce you to a variety of “jam dances” in the world of step dancing. You will learn how to choreograph a routine using shapes that can be made with different numbers of people and maybe a partner move or two! The class may be modified slightly to suit the number and abilities of students.

SOUND**3024: Sound Systems and Mixing (Steve Meacher, Lydia Fry, Travis Teed)**

Learn the basics of setting up and running a PA system, how to develop and interpret technical riders and sound plots, and an introduction to sound equipment. This class runs from 1.00 to 5.00 pm every day at the Livery Theatre (35 South St, Goderich). Students will also have the opportunity to run the sound at each evening’s Teacher Mini-Concerts.